PARA'METER. *n. ſ.* The latus rectum of a parabola, is a third proportional to the abſciſſa and any ordinate; ſo that the ſquare of the ordinate is always equal to the rectangle under the *parameter* and abſciſſa: but, in the ellipſis and hyperbola, it has a different proportion. *Harris.*

PARAMO'UNT. *adj.* [*per* and *mount.*]

1. Superiour; having the higheſt juriſdiction; as lord *paramount*, the chief of the ſeigniory.

Leagues within the ſtate are ever pernicious to monarchies; for they raiſe an obligation, *paramount* to obligation of ſovereignty, and make the king, tanquam unus ex nobis. *Bacon.*

The dogmatiſt's opinioned aſſurance is *paramount* to argument, *Glanville.*

If all power be derived from Adam, by divine inſtitution, this is a right antecedent and *paramount* to all government; and therefore the poſitive laws of men cannot determine that which is itſelf the foundation of all law. *Locke.*

Mankind, ſeeing the apoſtles poſſeſſed of a power plainly *paramount* to the powers of all the known beings, whether angels or dæmons, could not queſtion their being inſpired by God. *Weſt on the Reſurrection.*

2. Eminent; of the higheſt order.

John a Chamber was hanged upon a gibbet raiſed a ſtage higher in the midſt of a ſquare gallows, as a traitor *paramount*; and a number of his chief accomplices were hanged upon the lower ſtory round him. *Bacon.*

PA'RAMOUNT. *n. ſ.* The chief.

In order came the grand infernal peers,
'Midſt came their mighty *paramount*. *Milton's P. L.*

PA'RAMOUR. *n. ſ.* [*par* and *amour*, Fr.]

1. A lover or woer.

Upon the floor
A lovely bevy of fair ladies ſat,
Courted of many a jolly *paramour*,
The which them did in modeſtwiſe amate,
And each one ſought his lady to aggrate. *Fa. Queen.*

No ſeaſon then for her
To wanton with the ſun her luſty *paramour*. *Milt.*

2. A miſtreſs. It is obſolete in both ſenſes, though not inelegant or unmuſical.

Shall I believe
That unſubſtantial death is amorous,
And that the lean abhorred monſter keeps
Thee here in dark to be his *paramour*. *Shakeſpeare.*

PA'RANYMPH. *n. ſ.* [παρὰ and νυμφὴ; *paranymphe*, Fr.]

1. A brideman; one who leads the bride to her marriage.

The Timnian bride
Had not ſo ſoon prefer'd
Thy *paranymph*, worthleſs to thee compar'd,
Succeſſor in thy bed. *Milton's Agoniſtes.*

2. One who countenances or ſupports another.

Sin hath got a *paranymph* and a ſollicitor, a warrant and an advocate. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*

PARA'PEGM. *n. ſ.* [παραπήγμα, παραπήγνυμι.] A brazen table fixed to a pillar, on which laws and proclamations were anciently engraved: alſo a table ſet up publickly, containing an account of the riſing and ſetting of the ſtars, eclipſes of the ſun and moon, the ſeaſons of the year, &c. whence aſtrologers give this name to the tables, on which they draw figures according to their art. *Philips.*

Our forefathers, obſerving the courſe of the ſun, and marking certain mutations to happen in his progreſs through the zodiac, ſet them down in their *parapegmi*, or aſtronomical canons. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

PA'RAPET. *n. ſ.* [*parapet*, Fr. *parapetto*, Italian.] A wall breaſt high.

There was a wall or *parapet* of teeth ſet in our mouth to reſtrain the petulancy of our words. *Ben Johnſon.*

PARAPHIMO'SIS. *n. ſ.* [παραφίμωσις; *paraphimoſe*, Fr.] A diſeaſe when the præputium cannot be drawn over the glans.

PARAPHERNA'LIA. n. ſ. [Lat. *paraphernaux*, Fr.] Goods in the wife's diſpoſal.

PA'RAPHRASE. *n. ſ.* [παράφρασις; *paraphraſe*, Fr.] A looſe interpretation; an explanation in many words.

All the laws of nations were but a *paraphraſe* upon this ſtanding rectitude of nature, that was ready to enlarge itſelf into ſuitable determinations, upon all emergent objects and occaſions. *South's Sermons.*

In *paraphraſe*, or tranſlation with latitude, the author's words are not ſo ſtrictly followed as his ſenſe, and that too amplified, but not altered: ſuch is Mr. Waller's tranſlation of Virgil's fourth Æneid. *Dryden.*

To PA'RAPHRASE. *v. a.* [*paraphraſer*, Fr. παραφράζω.] To interpret with laxity of expreſſion; to tranſlate looſely.

We are put to conſtrue and *paraphraſe* our own words, to free ourſelves from the ignorance and malice of our adverſaries. *Stillingfleet's Def. of Diſ. on Romiſh Idolatry.*

What needs he *paraphraſe* on what we mean,
We were at worſt but wanton; he's obſcene. *Dryden.*

Where tranſlation is impracticable, they may *paraphraſe*.—But it is intolerable, that under a pretence of *paraphraſing* and tranſlating, a way ſhould be ſuffered of treating authors to a manifeſt diſadvantage. *Felton on the Claſſicks.*

PA'RAPHRAST. *n. ſ.* [*paraphraſte*, Fr. παραφραστὴς.] A lax interpreter; one who explains in many words.

The fitteſt for publick audience are ſuch, as following a middle courſe between the rigor of literal tranſlators and the liberty of *paraphraſts*, do, with great ſhortneſs and plainneſs, deliver the meaning. *Hooker.*

The chaldean *paraphraſt* renders Gerah by Meath. *Arbuth.*

PARAPHRA'STICAL. } *adj.* [from *paraphraſe.*] Lax in interpretation; not literal; not verbal.
PARAPHRA'STIC. }

PARAPHRENI'TIS. *n. ſ.* [παρὰ and φρενῖτις; *paraphreneſie*, Fr.]

Paraphrenitis is an inflammation of the diaphragm. The ſymptoms are a violent fever, a moſt exquiſite pain increaſed upon inſpiration, by which it is diſtinguiſhed from a pleuriſy, in which the greateſt pain is in expiration. *Arbuth.*

PA'RASANG. *n. ſ.* [*paraſanga*, low Latin.] A Perſian meaſure of length.

Since the mind is not able to frame an idea of any ſpace without parts, inſtead thereof it makes uſe of the common meaſures, which, by familiar uſe, in each country, have imprinted themſelves on the memory; as inches and feet, or cubits and *paraſangs*. *Locke.*

PA'RASITE. *n. ſ.* [*paraſite*, Fr. *paraſita*, Latin.] One that frequents rich tables, and earns his welcome by flattery.

He is a flatterer,
A *paraſite*, a keeper back of death,
Who gently would diſſolve the bands of life,
Which falſe hopes linger. *Shakeſpeare.*

Moſt ſmiling, ſmooth, deteſted *paraſites*,
Courteous deſtroyers, affable wolves, meek bears,
You fools of fortune. *Shakeſpeare.*

Come, you *paraſite*, anſwer me
Directly to this queſtion. *Shakeſpeare.*

Diogenes, when mice came about him, as he was eating, ſaid, I ſee, that even Diogenes nouriſheth *paraſites*. *Bacon.*

Thou, with trembling fear,
Or like a fawning *paraſite*, obeyed;
Then to thyſelf aſcrib'ſt the truth foretold. *Milton.*

The people ſweat not for their king's delight,
T' enrich a pimp, or raiſe a *paraſite*. *Dryden.*

PARASI'TICAL. } *adj.* [*paraſitique*, Fr. from *paraſite.*] Flattering; wheedling.
PARASI'TICK. }

The biſhop received ſmall thanks for his *paraſitick* preſentation. *Hakewill on Providence.*

Some *paraſitick* preachers have dared to call thoſe martyrs, who died fighting againſt me. *King Charles.*

PA'RASOL. *n. ſ.* A ſmall ſort of canopy or umbrello carried over the head, to ſhelter from rain and the heat of the ſun. *Diet.*

PARASYNA'XIS. *n. ſ.* In the civil law, a conventicle or unlawful meeting. *Diet.*

To PA'RBOIL. *v. a.* [*parbouiller*, French.] To half boil; to boil in part.

Parboil two large capons upon a ſoft fire, by the ſpace of an hour, till, in effect, all the blood be gone. *Bacon.*

From the ſea into the ſhip we turn,
Like *parboil'd* wretches, on the coals to burn. *Donne.*

Like the ſcum, ſtarved men did draw,
From *parboil'd* ſhoes and boots. *Donne.*

To PARBREAK. *v. n.* [*brecker*, Dutch.] To vomit.

PA'RBREAK. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.] Vomit.

Her filthy *parbreak* all the place defiled has. *Fa. Queen.*

PARCEL. *n. ſ. parcelle*, French; *particula*, Latin.]

1. A ſmall bundle.
2. A part of the whole taken ſeparately.

Women, Silvius, had they mark'd him
In *parcels*, as I did, would have gone near
To fall in love with him. *Shakeſpeare.*

I drew from her a prayer of earneſt heart,
That I would all my pilgrimage dilate;
Whereof by *parcels* ſhe had ſomething heard,
But not diſtinctively. *Shakeſpear's Othello.*

An inventory thus importing,
The ſeveral *parcels* of his plate, his treaſure,
Rich ſtuffs and ornaments of houſhold. *Shakeſpeare.*

I have known penſions given to particular perſons, any one of which, if divided into ſmaller *parcels*, and diſtributed to thoſe, who diſtinguiſh themſelves by wit or learning, would anſwer the end. *Swift.*

The ſame experiments ſucceed on two *parcels* of the white of an egg, only it grows ſomewhat thicker upon mixing with an acid. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

3. A quantity or maſs.

What can be rationally conceived in ſo tranſparent a ſubſtance as water for the production of theſe colours, beſides the various ſizes of its fluid and globular *parcels*. *Newton.*

4. A number of perſons, in contempt.

This youthful *parcel*
Of noble batchelors ſtand at my beſtowing. *Shakeſp.*

5. Any number or quantity in contempt.

They came to this concluſion; that, unleſs they could, by a *parcel* of fair words and pretences, engage them into a confederacy, there was no good to be done. *L'Eſtrange.*

To PARCEL. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To divide into portions.

If they allot and *parcel* out ſeveral perfections to ſeveral deities, do they not, by this, aſſert contradictions, making deity only to ſuch a meaſure perfect; whereas a deity implies perfection beyond all meaſure. *South's Sermons.*

Thoſe ghoſtly kings would *parcel* out my pow'r,
And all the fatneſs of my land devour. *Dryden.*

2. To make up into a maſs.

What a wounding ſhame,
That mine own ſervant ſhould
Parcel the ſum of my diſgraces by
Addition of his envy! *Shakeſp.*

PARCENER. *n. ſ.* [In common law.] When one dies poſſeſſed of an eſtate, and having iſſue only daughters, or his ſiſters be his heirs; ſo that the lands deſcend to thoſe daughters or ſiſters: theſe are called *parceners*, and are but as one heir. *Diet.*

PARCE'NERY. *n. ſ.* [from *parſonier*, French.] A holding or occupying of land by more perſons pro indiviſo, or by joint tenants, otherwiſe called coparceners: for if they refuſe to divide their common inheritance, and chuſe rather to hold it jointly, they are ſaid to hold in parcinarie. *Cowel.*

To PARCH. *v. a.* [from περικαίειν, ſays Junius; from *percoquo*, ſays Skinner; neither of them ſeem ſatisfied with their conjecture: perhaps from *peruſtus*, burnt, to *peruſt*, to *parch*; perhaps from *parchment*, the effect of fire upon parchment being almoſt proverbial.] To burn ſlightly and ſuperficially; to ſcorch; to dry up.

Hath thy fiery heart ſo *parcht* thine entrails,
That not a tear can fall. *Shakeſp.*

Did he ſo often lodge in open field
In winter's cold, and ſummer's *parching* heat,
To conquer France. *Shakeſp. Henry IV.*

Torrid heat,
And vapours as the Libyan air aduſt,
Began to *parch* that temperate clime. *Milt. Par. Loſt.*

I'm ſtupify'd with ſorrow, paſt relief
Of tears; *parch'd* up and wither'd with my grief. *Dryd.*

Without this circular motion of our earth, one hemiſphere would be condemned to perpetual cold and darkneſs, the other continually roaſted and *parched* by the ſun beams. *Ray.*

The Syrian ſtar
With his ſultry breath infects the ſky;
The ground below is *parch'd*, the heav'ns above us fry. *Dryden's Horace.*

Full fifty years
I have endur'd the biting winter's blaſt,
And the ſeverer heats of *parching* ſummer. *Rowe.*

He is like a man diſtreſſed with thirſt in the *parched* places of the wilderneſs, he ſearches every pit, but finds no water. *Rogers's Sermons.*

To PARCH. *v. n.* To be ſcorched.

We were better *parch* in Africk ſun,
Than in the pride and ſalt ſcorn of his eyes. *Shakeſp.*

If to prevent the acroſpiring, it be thrown thin, many corns will dry and *parch* into barley. *Mort. Husb.*

PARCHMENT. *n. ſ.* [*parchemin*, French; *pergamena*, Latin.] Skins dreſſed for the writer. Among traders, the ſkins of ſheep are called parchment, thoſe of calves vellum.

Is not this a lamentable thing, that the ſkin of an innocent lamb ſhould be made *parchment*; that *parchment*, being ſcribbled o'er, ſhould undo a man? *Shakeſp. Hen. VI.*

In the coffin, that had the books, they were found as freſh as if newly written, being written in *parchment*, and covered with watch candles of wax. *Bacon.*

Like flying ſhades before the clouds we ſhew,
We ſhrink like *parchment* in conſuming flame. *Dryden.*

PARCHMENT-MAKER. *n. ſ.* [*parchment* and *maker.*] He who dreſſes parchment.

PARD. } *n. ſ. pardus, pardalis*, Latin.] The leopard;
PA'RDALE. } in poetry, any of the ſpotted beaſts.

The *pardale* ſwift, and the tyger cruel. *Fa. Queen.*

As fox to lambs, as wolf to heifer's calf;
As *pard* to the hind, or ſtep-dame to her ſon. *Shakeſp.*

Ten brace of greyhounds, ſnowy fair,
And tall as ſtags, ran looſe, and cours'd around his chair,
A match for *pards* in flight, in grappling for the bear. *Dryd.*

To PA'RDON. *v. a.* [*pardonner*, French.]

1. To excuſe an offender.

When I beheld you in Cilicia,
An enemy to Rome, I *pardon'd* you. *Dryden.*

2. To forgive a crime.
3. To remit a penalty.

That thou may'ſt ſee the diff'rence of our ſpirit,
I *pardon* thee thy life before thou aſk it. *Shakeſpeare.*

4. Pardon me, is a word of civil denial, or ſlight apology.

Sir, *pardon* me, it is a letter from my brother. *Shakeſp.*

PA'RDON. *n. ſ.* [*pardon*, Fr. from the verb.]

1. Forgiveneſs of an offender.
2. Forgiveneſs of a crime; indulgence.

He that pleaſeth great men, ſhall get *pardon* for iniquity. *Eccluſ* xx. 27.

A ſlight pamphlet, about the elements of architecture, hath been entertained with ſome *pardon* among my friends. *Wotton.*

3. Remiſſion of penalty.
4. Forgiveneſs received.

A man may be ſafe as to his condition, but, in the mean time, dark and doubtful as to his apprehenſions; ſecure in his *pardon*, but miſerable in the ignorance of it; and ſo paſſing all his days in the diſconſolate, uneaſy viciſſitudes of hopes and fears, at length go out of the world, not knowing whither he goes. *South's Sermons.*

5. Warrant of forgiveneſs, or exemption from puniſhment.

The battle done, and they within our power,
Shall never ſee his *pardon*. *Shakeſpeare's K. Lear.*

PA'RDONABLE. *adj.* [*pardonable*, Fr. from *pardon.*] Venial; excuſable.

That which we do being evil, is notwithſtanding by ſo much more *pardonable*, by how much the exigences of ſo doing, or the difficulty of doing otherwiſe is greater, unleſs this neceſſity or difficulty have originally riſen from ourſelves. *Hooker.*

A blind man ſitting in the chimney corner is *pardonable* enough, but ſitting at the helm, he is intolerable. *South.*

What Engliſh readers, unacquainted with Greek or Latin, will believe me, when we confeſs we derive all that is *pardonable* in us from ancient fountains. *Dryden.*

PA'RDONABLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *pardonable.*] Venialneſs: ſuſceptibility of pardon.

Saint John's word is, all ſin is tranſgreſſion of the law; Saint Paul's, the wages of ſin is death: put theſe two together, and this conceit of the natural *pardonableneſs* of ſin vaniſhes away. *Hall.*

PA'RDONABLY. *adv.* [from *pardonable.*] Venially; excuſably.

I may judge when I write more or leſs *pardonably*. *Dryd.*

PA'RDONER. *n. ſ.* [from *pardon.*]

1. One who forgives another.

This is his pardon, purchas'd by ſuch ſin,
For which the *pardoner* himſelf is in. *Shakeſp.*

2. Fellows that carried about the pope's indulgencies, and ſold them to ſuch as would buy them, againſt whom *Luther* incenſed the people of Germany. *Cowel.*

To PARE. *v. a.* [This word is reaſonably deduced by *Skinner* from the French phraſe, *parer les ongles*, to dreſs the horſes hoofs when they are ſhaved by the farrier: thus we firſt ſaid, *pare* your nails; and from thence transfered the word to general uſe.] To cut off extremities or the ſurface; to cut away by little and little; to diminiſh.

The creed of Athanaſius, and that ſacred hymn of glory, than which nothing doth ſound more heavenly in the ears of faithful men, are now reckoned as ſuperfluities, which we muſt in any caſe *pare* away, leſt we cloy God with too much ſervice. *Hooker.*

I have not alone
Imploy'd you where high profits might come home;
But *par'd* my preſent havings to beſtow
My bounties upon you. *Shakeſpeare's Henry VIII.*

I am a man, whom fortune hath cruelly ſcratch'd.
—'Tis too late to *pare* her nails now. *Shakeſp.*

The lion, mov'd with pity, did endure
To have his princely paws all *par'd* away. *Shakeſp.*

The king began to *pare* a little the privilege of clergy, ordaining that clerks convict, ſhould be burned in the hand. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Pick out of tales the mirth, but not the ſin.
He *pares* his apple, that will cleanly feed. *Herbert.*

Whoever will partake of God's ſecrets, muſt firſt look into his own, he muſt *pare* off whatſoever is amiſs, and not without holineſs approach to the holieſt of all holies. *Taylor.*

All the mountains were *pared* off the earth, and the ſurface of it lay even, or in an equal convexity every where with the ſurface of the ſea. *Burnet.*

The moſt poetical parts, which are deſcription and images, were to be *pared* away, when the body was ſwollen into too large a bulk for the repreſentation of the ſtage. *Dryden.*

The ſword, as it was juſtly drawn by us, ſo can it ſcarce ſafely be ſheathed, 'till the power of the great troubler of our peace be ſo far *pared* and reduced, as that we may be under no apprehenſions. *Atterbury.*

'Twere well if ſhe would *pare* her nails. *Pope.*

PAREGO'RICK. *adj.* [παρηγορικὸς.] Having the power in medicine to comfort, mollify and aſſuage. *Diet.*

PARE'NCHYMA. *n. ſ.* [παρέγχυμα.] A ſpongy or porous ſubſtance; in phyſick, a part through which the blood is ſtrained for its better fermentation and perfection. *Diet.*

PARENCHY'MATOUS. } *adj.* [from *parenchyma.*] Relating to
PARENCHY'MOUS. } the parenchyma; ſpongy.

Ten thouſand ſeeds of the plant, hart's-tongue, hardly make the bulk of a pepper corn. Now the covers and true body of each ſeed, the *parenchymatous* and ligneous parts of both moderately multiplied, afford an hundred thouſand millions of formed atoms in the ſpace of a pepper corn. *Grew.*

Thoſe

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